## **Introduced by Assembly Member Hagman**

February 25, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 113—Relative to epilepsy awareness.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 113, as introduced, Hagman. Epilepsy awareness.

This measure would proclaim March 26, 2014, as Purple Day to increase epilepsy awareness.

Fiscal committee: no.

- WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a neurological disorder producing brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain that temporarily affects a person's consciousness, bodily movements, or sensations, while creating long-term effects on the lifestyle of individuals with epilepsy; and
- WHEREAS, One in 26 people will develop epilepsy and one in 10 people will have an epileptic seizure during his or her lifetime; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Epilepsy can affect anyone regardless of their 10 gender, race, age, religion, educational background, or 11 socioeconomic status; and
- WHEREAS, More people suffer from epilepsy than from Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and
- 14 cerebral palsy combined; and
- WHEREAS, Epilepsy affects more than 65 million people worldwide; and

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WHEREAS, Although there is no known cure for epilepsy, existing drug therapy, surgery, and other nonpharmacological treatments enable approximately 80 percent of individuals with epilepsy to lead normal lives with no seizures or a significant reduction in seizures; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a complex disorder that requires further research to find a cure and prevention; and

WHEREAS, The public is often unable to recognize common seizure types or to respond with appropriate first aid, and

WHEREAS, The annual observance of Purple Day on March 26 advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with epilepsy, while raising awareness with families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disorder; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims March 26, 2014, as Purple Day and invites all Californians to participate by wearing purple and calls upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of epilepsy through education while ensuring that all individuals with epilepsy lead a full and productive life; and be it further

*Resolved,* that the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.